Connecticut Education Committee,

I am writing as the parent of two daughters who attend public schools and I strongly oppose SB 738, SB 457 and SB 874 and any other bill that may open the door to forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools.

I have resided in Connecticut for my entire life and the long standing New England tradition of local government controlling the schools is one that appeals to me and my family very much. We moved here to Wilton solely based on the schools. We chose Wilton because of a much smaller student body and quality education. None of these bills even address what regionalization would do to the size of the student body and the education standards.

Our children's education must be first and foremost when any bill is presented and there is nothing in these bills that indicates preservation of quality education. This is the next generation that will be taking care of our state and we cannot let them fall behind academically because of forced regionalization.

I sincerely hope you will be opposing SB 738, SB 457, SB 874 and any other legislation that opens the possibility of forced regionalization of Connecticut Public Schools. Our children's education depends on it.

Melissa A Pennucci Wilton, CT